

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed along with a request for continuing examination. A diligent effort has been made to respond to the objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action dated October 23, 2004, and reconsideration in view of the above amendments and these remarks is respectfully requested.

A. Status of the Claims

Original claim 2 remains pending in the application. New claims 44-55 have been added for consideration. All other claims have been cancelled.

B. Rejection Over Airmobile in view of Takahashi

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over AirMobile in view of Takahashi. This rejection is traversed. In rejecting claim 2, the Office Action makes several incorrect assertions regarding the teaching of AirMobile and Takahashi which render the rejection defective. First, the Office Action asserts that AirMobile teaches a wireless gateway, but it clearly does not. Figure 1-1 of AirMobile is set forth below.

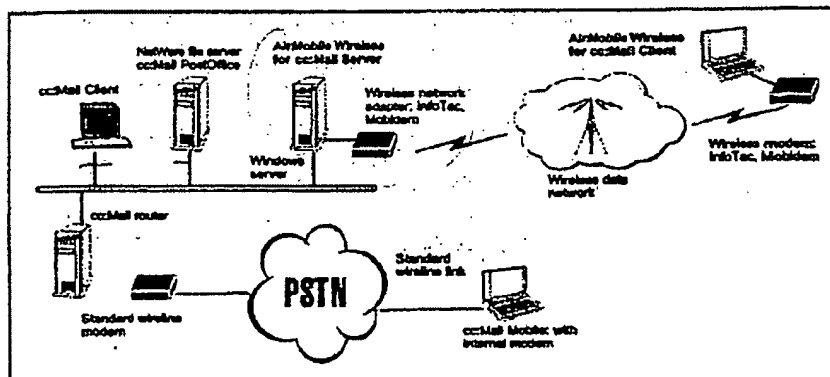


Figure 1-1 AirMobile Wireless Comm Server and Client in a cc:Mail environment

As shown in Figure 1-1, the AirMobile Wireless Server is directly connected to a wireless modem. The wireless modem then communicates directly with the wireless network to a portable computer having a second wireless modem. Thus, there is no wireless gateway shown in AirMobile as the Office Action asserts.

In addition, the Office Action fails to consider the entirety of the claim language with respect to this wireless gateway element. In claim 2, as presently amended, the redirector component is coupled to a first network. The first network is then coupled to the wireless gateway, which is in turn coupled to the wireless data network. Thus, the claim requires the following path: (1) redirector component – (2) first network – (3) wireless gateway – (4) wireless network – (5) mobile data communication device. In AirMobile this path is not present. Rather, the following path is taught: (A) Wireless Server – (B) Modem – (C) Wireless network – (D) Portable Computer. As clearly demonstrated by this comparison, AirMobile does not teach the path set forth in claim 2, and thus the assertion regarding AirMobile is incorrect.

Second, while conceding that AirMobile does not teach or suggest the “secure link” limitation of claim 2, the Office Action asserts that Takahashi is directed to a “similar art” as AirMobile and allegedly provides the missing teaching and also allegedly provides a motivation to combine its teachings with AirMobile. Applicants strongly traverse these assertions.

Clearly AirMobile does not teach any type of secure link, and more specifically it does not teach the secure link as specified in claim 2. Neither does Takahashi. Takahashi is directed to point-to-point communications over the Internet. The WinSock API was a commonly used software interface for transmitting TCP/IP packets (i.e., Internet data) in 1996, which is the date indicated on the Takahashi reference. Takahashi enhanced the WinSock API to provide for

encryption of TCP/IP packets between a first and second computers which were communicating over the Internet. In order to achieve this encryption function, however, the two computers were required to first negotiate a special connection sequence to thereby establish a secure, point-to-point communication channel (referred to as a "Secure Port").

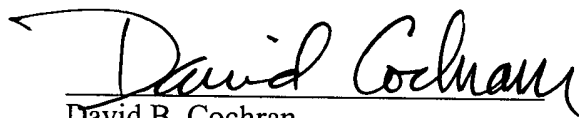
Claim 2, by distinction, requires a secure link between a redirector component and a mobile data communication device. The secure link is established using an encryption module operating in conjunction with the redirector component and a decryption module operating at the wireless mobile communication device. Takahashi does not disclose such a link, because Takahashi does not disclose any redirector component. The redirector component, as described in claim 2, redirects messages received and stored at a messaging server to the mobile device. No such functionality exists in Takahashi. Therefore, Takahashi does not disclose the type of secure link set forth in claim 2.

Applicants also traverse the Office Action assertion that one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to combine the teachings of Takahashi with AirMobile. The primary reason to provide a secure link as set forth in claim 2 is so that the redirected messages remain encrypted as they pass through the wireless gateway. Prior art systems often were required to decrypt and then re-encrypt data as it passed through such a gateway. But in AirMobile there is no wireless gateway at all, rather there is a direct point-to-point wireless connection between the AirMobile server and the portable device. Thus, the problem solved by the present invention does not even exist in AirMobile because there is no gateway to traverse. Therefore, the person of skill in the art would not be motivated to combine Takahashi with AirMobile. And, as stated above, even if the person were so motivated, the combination would not result in claim 2.

For all of the reasons noted above, the obviousness rejection of claim 2 should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 44-55 are patentable for the same reasons as claim 2. In addition, these claims set forth additional elements and limitations that are not disclosed in the combinations set forth in the Office Action and thus are independently patentable over those combinations.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David B. Cochran". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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